Claims

[c1]   1. A system comprising:

an operating system;

an application program running on the operating system; and,

an audio or video program running on the operating system, the audio or video program integrated with the application program,

such that a user of the application program interacts with the audio or video program as though the audio or video program were part of the application program.

[c2]   2. The system of claim 1, wherein the audio or video program is integrated with the application program by detecting when an event related to the application program occurs.

[c3]   3. The system of claim 2, wherein the audio or video program is further integrated with the application program by subclassing into a window of the application program.

[c4]   4. The system of claim 2, wherein the audio or video program is further integrated with the application program by hooking into a window of the application program.

[c5]   5. The system of claim 1, wherein the audio or video program is integrated with the application program by employing a customization mechanism of the application program.

[c6]   6. The system of claim 1, wherein the audio or video program is integrated with the application program by employing application programming interfaces (API's) of the application program.

[c7]   7. The system of claim 1, wherein the audio or video program modifies contents of a window of the application program created through the operating system.

[c8]   8. The system of claim 1, wherein the audio or video program runs in a window created through the operating system and related to a window of the program created through the operating system.

[c9]   9.The system of claim 1, wherein the application program comprises one of: an email program, a presentation program, a publishing program, a word processing program, a spreadsheet program, an instant messaging program, a telephony program, and a gaming program.

[c10]   10.The system of claim 1, wherein the audio or video program comprises one of: an audio or video player program, an audio or video recorder program, an audio or video player-and-recorder program.

[c11]   11.The system of claim 1, wherein the audio or video program comprises one of: an audio-only program, a video-only program, and an audio-and-video program.

[c12]   12.A method comprising:
detecting when an event related to a predetermined application program occurs;
in response to detecting when the event has occurred,
presenting one or more audio or video controls for use in conjunction with the predetermined application program, such that an audio or video program encompassing the one or more audio or video controls is integrated with the predetermined application program.

[c13]   13.The method of claim 12, wherein presenting the one or more audio or video controls comprises integrating the one or more audio or video controls within a window of the predetermined application program.

[c14]   14.The method of claim 12, wherein presenting the one or more audio or video controls comprises creating an audio or video program window through the operating system in which the one or more audio or video controls are located.

[c15]   15.The method of claim 12, wherein presenting the one or more audio or video controls comprises subclassing into a window of the application program.

[c16]   16.The method of claim 12, wherein presenting the one or more audio or video controls comprises hooking into a window of the application program.

[c17]   17.The method of claim 12, wherein presenting the one or more audio or video controls comprises employing a customization mechanism of the application

program.

[c18]   18.The method of claim 12, wherein presenting the one or more audio or video controls comprises employing application programming interfaces (API's) of the application program.

[c19]   19.A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon for an audio or video computer program comprising:
means for detecting when an event related to a predetermined application program occurs;
means for presenting one or more audio or video controls for use in conjunction with the predetermined application program,
such that the audio or video computer program of which the one or more audio or video controls are a part is integrated with the predetermined application program.

[c20]   20.The medium of claim 19, wherein the predetermined application program comprises one of: an email program, a presentation program, a publishing program, a word processing program, a spreadsheet program, an instant messaging program, a telephony program, and a gaming program.